

***ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST****Purpose of checklist:*

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), Chapter 43.21C RW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

*Instructions for applicants:*

The environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring the preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

**You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write “do not know” or “does not apply.” Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.**

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impacts.

*Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:*

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered “does not apply”. IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (Part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words “project,” “applicant,” and “property or site” should be read as “proposal,” “proposer,” and “affected geographic area,” respectively.

**A. BACKGROUND**

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: Boise Cascade Road Use Permit, Application No. 50-074855.
2. Name of applicant: State of Washington, Department of Natural Resources
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

Roger Huestis  
Department of Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 190  
Colville, WA 99114-0190

(509) 684-7474

4. Date checklist prepared: May 19, 2003
5. Agency requesting checklist: Department of Natural Resources
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):  
  
Road construction may begin in June 2003.
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

Yes, the immediate proposal is for fifty feet of road construction over state land under provisions of a temporary Road Use Permit to access Boise land. This road may eventually be included as part of a permanent easement exchange.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

None known

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals or other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

A road use permit application for use of state land is on file, pending completion of SEPA review.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

Forest Practice Application

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agency may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

This project involves the construction of 50 feet of road over state land by Boise Cascade. In addition, 2,050 feet of existing road or road reconstruction on state land will be utilized by Boise for hauling timber. The total right of way will be approximately 60 feet in width, 2,100 feet in length, and contain approximately 2.9 acres of ground. The road running surface will be 10 to 12 feet in width. The road construction project will occur on nearly flat ground.

12. Location of proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including street address, if any, and Section, Township, and Range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographical map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any application related to this checklist.

This proposal includes road construction and timber hauling activities in portions of the W1/2NW1/4 of Section 30, Township 30 North, Range 40 East, W.M., in Stevens County. The project area is located approximately one-quarter mile east of the Luther County Road, 1 ½ miles north of the Springdale-Hunters Road. See attached road location map.

## **B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS**

### **1. Earth**

- a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other

The general area is rolling and hilly.

- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

30%

- c. What general types of soils (for example: clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.

2520 Green Bluff silt loam (slope stability rating of stable, with medium soil erosion potential) at the site for new construction, and 0525 Bernhill very stony loam (slope stability rating of stable, with soil erosion potential of high) at the site of existing road and road reconstruction.

- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

None noted. State soil survey information (shown above) indicates stable soils in or near the proposed road construction and existing haul road areas.

Small local events can be found along cut banks of main county and other roads within the WAUs. These consist primarily of sloughing of material into ditches and occasionally onto road surfaces.

- e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

None

- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

There is minimal erosion potential as a result of road construction activities and road use associated with this proposal. Road construction will conform to Forest Practices Regulations. Management techniques identified below have been identified to minimize the risk of erosion.

- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

Within the road right of way, less than 0.1 acres will be utilized for sub-grade and running surface of the road.

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

A majority of the road to be included in the Road Use Permit is existing. The new construction is located on as gentle ground as possible in order to reduce the amount of excavation, road cuts, and sidecast required, and will be built to allow for proper drainage as prescribed in the Forest Practices Act. Proper road construction design/location, good construction techniques, effective permit administration and normal road maintenance all should minimize the erosion potential. Waterbars, ditching, out sloping, monitoring, and grass seeding will be utilized. Log haul will not be permitted from March 15 to May 15, unless approved by the permit administrator. All proposed measures will meet and/or exceed Forest Practice regulations.

## 2. Air

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from this proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Proposed road construction will involve vehicle emissions and some dust associated with movement of soil and placement and grading of rock. Log hauling activities will result in vehicle emissions and possible dust, but should result in no significant impact to air quality.

- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

Similar vehicle emissions and dust are common to forest management use of gravel roads.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

None

## 3. Water

- a. Surface

1. Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

No

2. Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

No

3. Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of the fill material.

None

4. Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No

5. Does the proposal lie within a 100 year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

No

6. Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

No

**b. Ground**

1. Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

Ground water should not be significantly changed by this project.

2. Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemical . . .; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

None

## c. Water Runoff (including storm water):

1. Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

Snow melt and rain are the main sources of water runoff. Runoff that is intercepted by road surfaces and ditches will be diverted onto the undisturbed adjacent ground where possible. A culvert (or culverts) will be added to the road as necessary to aid in storm water drainage to prevent buildup and delivery into surface waters.

2. Could waste material enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

No

## d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any:

Outsloping and rolling dips will be constructed to control surface and runoff water impacts.

**4. Plants**

## a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:

- ☐ Deciduous tree:
- ☒ Evergreen tree: Douglas fir, ponderosa pine, western larch
- ☐ Shrubs
- ☒ Grass
- ☐ Pasture
- ☐ Crop or grain
- ☐ Wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bulrush, skunk cabbage, other: none
- ☐ Water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other: none
- ☐ Other types of vegetation:

## b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

Less than 1/10 acre of ground vegetation will be altered or removed as the new road is constructed.

## c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

There are no threatened or endangered plant species known to be on site.

- d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

Grass seeding along roads on disturbed soils will help to prohibit the spread of noxious weeds.

## 5. Animals

- a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

Birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other: grouse, crow, turkey

Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other: none

- b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

The proposal is within a bull trout evolutionary significant unit (ESU).

- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

No

- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

None

## 6. Energy and Natural Resources

- a. What kinds of energy (electrical, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

The completed project will not require energy.



- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

Does not apply

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

None

## **7. Environmental Health**

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

Minimal hazard incident to operating or working around heavy machinery.

1. Describe any emergency services that might be required.

Washington Department of Ecology will be notified if any spills occur and appropriate action will be taken.

2. Propose measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

None

- b. Noise

1. What types of noise exist in the area, which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operations, other)?

There are no existing noises that will affect the project.

2. What types of levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

During the road construction and maintenance, there will be some noise associated with heavy equipment, chain saws, and log truck operations.

3. Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

none

**8. Land and Shoreline Use**

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

The site and adjacent properties are currently used for timber production.

- b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe?

No

- c. Describe any structures on the site.

None

- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

No

- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

Minimum requirements

- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

Minimum requirements

- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

Does not apply

- h. Has any part of the site been classified as an “environmentally sensitive” area? If so, specify.

No

- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

None

- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

None

- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

Does not apply

- l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

Historical and existing land use in the immediate vicinity has been for timber production. The proposed road construction is consistent with that use.

**9. Housing**

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

Does not apply

- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

Does not apply

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

Does not apply

**10. Aesthetics**

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

No structures or buildings will be a part of the project on state land.

- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

None

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

None

**11. Light and Glare**

- a. What kind of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

Minimal possibility of glare from logging equipment during daylight hours.

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

Does not apply

- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

None

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

None

**12. Recreation**

- a. What designated and informal recreation opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

Informal: Hunting, fishing, hiking, and other dispersed recreation.

- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

No

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreational opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

None

**13. Historical and Cultural Preservation**

- a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

None known

- b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

None

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:

If an unknown historic or cultural resource is discovered during road construction, the following process will occur: 1) Cease operations affecting the discovered site. 2) Physically identify the site on the ground so it can be located and impacts mitigated (a buffer and road re-location if necessary). 3) Contact region state lands assistant and district manager, and work in collaboration on timing, confidentiality, and notification of tribes and other affected parties.

**14. Transportation**

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and description proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

Accessed from the Luther County Road 1 ½ mile north of the Springdale-Hunters Road, approximately 4 ½ miles west of the Springdale.

- b. Is the site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

No

- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

Does not apply

- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

The project area on state land will result in a 50 foot length of new road. An additional 200 feet of new road will be built across private land to access the state land.

- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

No

- f. How many vehicle trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

This proposal should result in no increase in vehicle trips per day upon completion. However, during road construction, there may be approximately four additional round trips per day.

- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

The road will be closed following completion of project and timber harvest.

## **15. Public Services**

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

None anticipated

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

No impacts on public services is anticipated.

**16. Utilities**

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

None

- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

No utilities are proposed for this project.

**C. SIGNATURE**

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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